

REMARKS

In the outstanding Official Action, claims 4-6 were deemed to be allowable if placed in independent form, while claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tuthill, for the reasons of record. In response, independent claim 1 is herewith amended in order to more clearly and precisely recite the instant invention in a manner which is clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied reference, and it is respectfully submitted that claim 1, as herewith amended, and the remaining claims depending therefrom, are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the allowable claims have not been placed in independent form at the present time, pending a final determination of the patentability of claims 1-3.

In the Action, it was suggested that Tuthill discloses in Fig. 1 a circuit having all of the features of the instant invention as previously claimed. In response, it is noted that claim 1, as herein amended, now more precisely recites a single current source with two data switches coupled thereto, and two phase switches coupled between the current source and the data switches to provide a current to the data switches. It is respectfully submitted that the circuit of Fig. 1 of Tuthill does

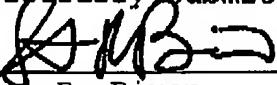
not show or suggest such an arrangement as now more precisely claimed.

More specifically, it can be clearly seen in Fig. 3 of the instant application that the phase switches are coupled between the current source and the second data switches in such a manner as to provide a current to the data switches. In other words, the single current source of the instant invention is coupled to the main signal path of the data switches, rather than control electrodes thereof. In the circuit arrangement of Fig. 1 of Tuthill, on the contrary, the phase switches 34 and 36 have only their control electrodes (gates) coupled to the data switches (38) and thus do not provide a current from the current source to the data switches. Thus, it has been clearly established that the circuit shown in Fig. 1 of Tuthill neither shows nor suggests the configuration of claim 1 as now more precisely recited, at least in that the reference does not show a single current source with two phase switches coupled between the current source and two data switches in a manner such that the phase switches provide a current to the data switches.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1, as well as the remaining claims depending therefrom, are clearly patentably distinguishable over the cited and applied reference for the reasons detailed above. Accordingly, allowance of amended claim 1, as well as the remaining claims

depending therefrom, it is now respectfully submitted to be justified, and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Reg. 26,531

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January 23, 2006